

Central Intelligence Agency

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Washington D.C. 20505

DATE

*Sen Proxmire*  
*JEC*

14 FEB 1988

OCA 80-0128

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OCA/HA,  (20 Jan 88)

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The Honorable William Proxmire  
United States Senate  
Washington, D. C. 20510

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Dear Senator Proxmire:

Thank you for your very kind letter of January 6th marking the retirement of  after 38 years with the Federal Government. Your recognition of  years of service not only honors his individual contribution, but also honors the larger Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) "family" of which he was a part. STAT

My own view of the contribution  has made to this organization closely parallels your own.  has presided over the study of the Soviet economy from the period when information was scarce up to the time when Glasnost has made our analytical task somewhat easier. The studies the CIA has produced under  stewardship have greatly enhanced both our understanding of the Soviet economy and the task which now confronts the Gorbachev regime, that of improving its economic performance. Equally important,  has been largely responsible for encouraging and training the next generation of Soviet economists, both in the Agency and the Intelligence Community at large. His commitment to high standards helps ensure that we will continue to provide quality research on the Soviet economy and the impact of reform. STAT

In closing, let me again thank you for honoring  and I join you in recognizing his unique accomplishments as a public servant. STAT

Sincerely yours,

/s/ William H. Webster

William H. Webster  
Director of Central Intelligence